

CITY STUDENTS

WINTER RETREAT FAQ SHEET

1. What is Winter Retreat?

Winter Retreat is a high energy, non-stop weekend experience that is geared towards discipleship and built around small groups. Our retreat weekends are the best of what we do on a typical Wednesday (games, worship, teaching, small group discussion) happening from Friday evening to Sunday morning.

2. Why does your son / daughter need to come?

We feel it is vital for your son / daughter to leave the comforts of home and participate in an experience that is out of their normal routine and environment. This change from a normal rhythm can create space for God to speak and students to hear in ways that may not be achievable elsewhere. It is also a great time for small group leaders and other students to grow deeper in their relationships with each other.

3. Do middle school and high school students attend the same retreat?

No, for our winter retreats, we host two separate middle school and high school retreats, usually as back to back weekends. Both retreats take place at Garner Creek Retreat Center.

4. Why do we hold our winter retreats at Garner Creek Retreat Center?

Garner Creek Retreat Center is located in Dickson, TN making it close enough to keep transportation costs low, plus it's just far enough away to feel like you're "getting away" and "roughing it" for the weekend. They also have a state of the art worship space with cabins being a close walking distance away.

5. What does the cost of registration cover, plus new Active Network Fee:

We realize the cost of winter retreat is significant, but we work hard to make it as affordable as possible. Despite our best efforts, some expenses are unavoidable and that is what determines the prices we charge. Costs to put on retreat include (but aren't limited to): charter buses to/from location, food, lodging, activities at the retreat center, covering the costs of our volunteers, large group game supplies, A/V equipment, marketing/promotion, rental vehicles to transport supplies, programming supplies, t-shirts, etc.

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*Beginning this year we are testing out a new registration platform called Active Networks that will hopefully and drastically change the registration experience. However, with each registration there is a \$5.95 fee that will now be charged to utilize this new platform. We hope this new feature for our retreats and camps will ease the strain on parents that our former platform created. Some new and exciting features include the below. Our team is incredibly excited to launch this new registration platform and we hope it provides parents with a more streamlined and easy to understand process. We look forward to receiving your feedback and thank you for your patience as we test this out!

- Registering multiple students at a time from one link.
- Distinct registration links for each church location.
- Selecting a payment plan based off your family's financial needs.
- Automatic withdrawals of payments.
- The ability to log in and see your balance.

6. Do I have to pay in full or can I make payments towards the registration cost?

You can actually do both! Please see the above regarding our new payment and balance tracking process.

7. What forms need to be turned in?

For our winter retreats, there is only one form that needs to be submitted. This form is actually built in to the registration. It will be the last thing you complete as part of your registration before you submit your payment.